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# **Pankaj Oudhia's Notes on Xanthium strumarium L. [Kirtikar, Kanhoba Ranchoddas, and Baman Das Basu. "Indian Medicinal Plants." Indian Medicinal Plants. (1918)].**

- Posted by [Pankaj Oudhia](#) on April 28, 2014 at 6:45
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**Pankaj Oudhia's Notes on Xanthium strumarium L. [Kirtikar, Kanhoba Ranchoddas, and Baman Das Basu. "Indian Medicinal Plants." *Indian Medicinal Plants*. (1918)].**

## Pankaj Oudhia

### Introduction

**Based on Ethnobotanical surveys since year 1990 in different parts of India Pankaj Oudhia has documented vital information about Medicinal Plants mentioned in the famous publication by Kirtikar and Basu (1918). Through this research document Pankaj Oudhia has tried to present original document with additional notes. For complete paper with pictures, Interactive Tables, Video and Audio clips please visit [pankajoudhia.com](http://pankajoudhia.com)**

For original publication by Kirtikar and Basu (1918) please visit <https://archive.org/details/indianmedicinalp01kirt>

646. Xanthium strumarium, Linn, h.f.b.i., hi.

303.

Syn. : — X. indicum, D.C. Roxb. 660.

Sans. : — Aristha.

## 684 INDIAN MEDICINAL PLANTS.

Vern, :— Chhota-gokhru ? (Hind.) ; Bun-okra (BeDg.) ; Shan  
keshvara ; Dhupa (Bomb.) ; Marlumulta (Tain.) ; Veritel-nep  
(Tel.) ; Gokhroo, kullan (Sind ; Pb.)

Habitat : — Throughout the hotter parts of India/ usually  
near houses ; ascending the Western Himalaya to 5,000 ft.

An annual coarse, rough, unarmed herb. Stem short, stout,  
slightly branched, spotted, harsh with bristly hairs. Leaves  
petioled, 2-3in. long, scabrid, triangular-cordate or orbicular  
lobed and toothed, base cuneate. Heads in terminal and  
axillary racemes, fruiting involucre fin. long, ovoid or oblong,  
beaks erect or diverging. Achenes enclosed in the hardened  
involucral cells, ovoid thick ; pappus absent.

Use : — The whole plant is supposed to possess powerful dia-  
phoretic and sedative properties. It is generally administered  
in the form of decoction, and is said to be very efficacious in long  
standing cases of malarious fever -;S. Arjun). Mr. Baden-

Powell says that the root is a bitter tonic, useful in cancer **[Pankaj Oudhia's Comment: *I have documented information about over 60,000 Traditional Herbal Formulations in which Xanthium parts are used as important ingredient. These Formulations are used in treatment of different types of cancer. The Traditional Healers of Chhattisgarh and Odisha use it for cancer prevention also. Please see Tables Xanth-1 to Xanth-30 for details.*]** and

strumous diseases. The prickly fruit considered cooling and

demulcent and is given in small-pox, (Stewart). **[Pankaj Oudhia's Comment: *It is popular among the Healers having expertise in treatment of different types of fever. The Malaria experts of Bastar use Xanthium based over 3000 Traditional Herbal Formulations. In these Formulations Xanthium is added as secondary ingredient. Please see Table Xanth-31 to Xanth-40 for details.*]**

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In America and Australia, this plant has been observed to

prove fatal to cattle and pigs. **[Pankaj Oudhia's Comment: *Agree. The Traditional Healers are well aware of remedial measure to manage such poisoning in cattle.*]** Its hairs and prickles are em-

ployed as medicine in China (Dymock). **[Pankaj Oudhia's Comment: *Also in India.*]**

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In Southern India, the prickly involucre is applied to the ear,

or tied in a bunch to the ear-ring, to cure hemi-crania (Elliott). [Pankaj Oudhia's Comment: *It is popular treatment Migraine in other parts of India also.*]

■ ■ Has proved very useful in urinary diseases, a good diuretic, diminishes the irritability of the bladder. Very useful also in gleet and leucorrhoea, given as infusion or in one drachm doses in powder. Has also been given in menorrhagia (Penny, in Watt's Dictionary).

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The fruits are slightly narcotic (Surgeon Mukerji, in Watt's Dictionary.)

E-documents on Xanthium

<http://ecoport.org/ep?SearchType=earticleList&Author=oudhia&...>

## Citation

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